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termination of the melting and boiling points and preliminary tests for the elements present, before taking up the identification of the class and individual. These are clearly and concisely stated and should lead to the identification of the more important organic substances, provided the identification is substantiated by the preparation of the substance itself, without which no identification is really satisfactory.

J. E. G.

*Notes on Qualitative Analysis.* By HORACE G. BYERS, Professor of Chemistry, University of Washington, and HENRY G. KNIGHT, Director of Experiment Station, University of Wyoming. New York, D. Van Nostrand Co. 1912. \$1.50 net.

We have here a further addition to the already too numerous volumes on qualitative analysis. The author has devoted, as we find to be the case in most of the recent books on this subject, the first fifty or so pages to a discussion of the physical-chemical principles of the subject before taking up the chemistry of the metals and their separation. The usual methods of analysis are used in most cases and at the end of each chapter questions of a general nature regarding the metals of that group and their compounds are added. One feature of the book which is to be specially commended, owing to the increasing use of special alloys, is the introduction of a chapter on the analysis of materials containing the so-called rare metals.

J. E. G.

*Sociology in its Psychological Aspects.* By CHARLES A. ELLWOOD, Ph.D., Professor of Sociology in the University of Missouri. New York and London, D. Appleton & Co. 1912. Pp. 402.

This is a thoughtful book, based on wide reading and careful scholarship. The large range of subjects with which it deals have all, at one time or another, attracted the serious attention not only of sociologists, but of many psychologists as well. The presentation of these subjects follows a logical order. The first

six chapters are largely introductory. They discuss the conceptions, methods and problems of sociology and the relation of sociology to other sciences. Later chapters treat of the origin of society, social coordination, social self-control, the rôle of instinct, feeling, intellect, imitation and sympathy in the social life, the social mind and forms of association. The final topics are entitled social order, progress and the nature of society.

The chief unifying feature of the book is the author's conception of society. Society he defines as a group of individuals carrying on a collective life by means of mental interaction. In consequence the fundamental task of the sociologist becomes the study of the continuously changing coordinations or coadaptations of the activities of the members of groups and of the relations of groups to the environment. Sanctioned modes of coordinated activity become institutions. Systems of government, law, religion, morality and education, however, are not to be understood from the standpoint of any single mental element, such as instinct, imitation, sympathy, feeling, desire or intellect. Nor are they to be understood from the standpoint of any special science, such as geography, ethnology or economics. A synthetic view is necessary.

During the course of the book, Professor Ellwood views this central position from almost every conceivable abstract point of view. The terms society, sociology, the collective life process, the unit of investigation in sociology, social psychology, social coordination, intermental stimulation, instinctive association, social forces, social mind, social consciousness, social will, public opinion, social organization, social control and many others that have appeared in sociological articles or books during the past twenty years, are all defined with great care and considered in detail. The various meanings that have been read into them by those who invented them or who have used them most are discussed. The reader is told in clear language exactly how these meanings differ from each other and from Professor Ellwood's own conceptions.

The value of the work thus accomplished is

enhanced by frequent and exact citation of authorities.

Concerning the specific treatment of the large number of topics discussed by Professor Ellwood little can be said in a brief review. Concerning the adequacy of the book as a whole, however, a few words of comment may not be out of place. In the preface Professor Ellwood himself modestly refers to the volume as an introduction to the psychological theory of society. That this correctly characterizes it, however, is true only in the sense that every work that attempts to deal with so large a field must leave the major part of the task undone.

The chief thing, however, which Professor Ellwood leaves undone is to bring abstraction to the test of inductive verification and to make concrete application of theory to history and to current events. To require him to have thus tested and applied all the theories he discusses, however, would be to demand of him the completed results of the task which sociology is just beginning. The fault perhaps lies more with the present status of sociology than with Professor Ellwood. Nevertheless, in the present reviewer's opinion the author could have improved his book very greatly by condensation of abstract discussion, by more frequent appeal to fact and more frequent illustration of the practical value of theory in meeting the broad problems of public policy.

To have systematically reviewed in a single volume, however, the various positions taken by the most important writers on the long list of topics mentioned above is a service; to have done so with the insight and care shown by Professor Ellwood is an achievement.

A. A. TENNEY

COLUMBIA UNIVERSITY

*A VOTE ON THE PRIORITY RULE BY THE  
AMERICAN SOCIETY OF ZOOLOGISTS,  
CENTRAL BRANCH*

At the April meeting of the Central Branch of the American Society of Zoologists at Urbana, the Committee on Nomenclature in its report to that body requested authority to ask from the membership of the Central

Branch an expression of opinion on the following question: "Do you favor the strict (inflexible) application of the 'priority rule' as the latter is now interpreted by the International Commission on Nomenclature?"

This request was granted by the adoption of the report by the Central Branch on April 5, 1912.

The chairman of the committee then entered into correspondence with the other four members in order to reach an agreement as to the manner of taking such a ballot, and this correspondence was terminated just before the commencement season of 1912, too late for a satisfactory ballot to be taken during that collegiate year.

On September 20, 1912, a letter was addressed to each member of the Central Branch showing the authority under which the vote was taken, quoting the "priority rule" without comment and asking a prompt return of the enclosed ballot in an addressed and stamped envelope furnished with the vote.

Practically a month was given for the return of the ballots, and then the chairman of the committee requested the two nearest members to meet with him at Chicago on October 19 to open the ballots and decide on the form and medium of publication of the result of the vote.

The following members voted in favor of the strict (inflexible) application of the priority rule as now interpreted by the International Commission on Nomenclature:

J. F. Abbott, professor of zoology, Washington University.

C. H. Eigenmann, professor of zoology, Indiana University.

Harrison Garman, professor of entomology and zoology, Kentucky State University; and state entomologist.

Harold Heath, professor of invertebrate zoology, Stanford University.

S. J. Holmes, associate professor of zoology, University of California.

W. J. Moenkhaus, professor of physiology, Indiana University.

S. E. Meek, assistant curator of zoology, Field Museum of Natural History.